Atty. Dkt. No. 017700-0149

IN THE CLAIMS

14. (Currently Amended) An oxide superconducting wire comprising:

a first oxide superconducting wire having ~~an~~ a first end portion;

a second oxide superconducting wire having ~~an~~ a second end portion; and

said first ~~and second~~ oxide wire~~s each~~ comprising at least a first superconducting filament~~s~~ surrounded by and in direct contact with a first ~~a~~ sheath at least in a region of said first end portion;

said second oxide wire comprising at least a second superconducting filament surrounded by and in direct contact with a second sheath at lease in a region of said second end portion;

said first oxide superconducting wire including a first outer surface defined by an outer surface of said first sheath and a first edge surface defined by an end of said first superconducting filament and an end of said first sheath;

said second oxide superconducting wire including a second outer surface defined by an outer surface of said second sheath and a second edge surface defined by an end of said second superconducting filament and an end of said second sheath;

said first outer surface forming a junction with said second outer surface by connecting said first outer surface to said second outer surface, in a region of said first and second end portions, by a brazing filler metal disposed therebetween; and

said first edge surface being displaced from said second edge surface longitudinally along the direction of said first and second superconducting wires.~~a junction formed by superposing the end portions of said first and second oxide superconducting wires with each other without removing said sheath therefrom, wherein said junction includes a brazing filler metal interposed between superposed said end portions of said first and second oxide superconducting wires (1, 2).~~

16. (Previously Amended) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 14, wherein said oxide superconducting wires are tape-shaped wires having rectangular cross sections.

17. (Previously Amended) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 16, wherein said junction includes a junction formed by superposing wide surfaces of two said tape-shaped wires.

18. (Previously Amended) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 17, wherein at least one of said end portions is so worked that the width (W) of said at least one of said end portions is reduced toward the end.

19. (Original) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 18, wherein said junction (L) includes an end portion having a V shape in plane.

20. (Previously Amended) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 18, wherein said junction (L) includes an end portion having an end surface inclined in the width direction across the widths of said tape-shaped wires.

21. (Previously Amended) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 17, wherein at least one of said end portions is so worked that the thicknesses of said at least one of said end portions is reduced toward the distal end thereof.

22. (Original)The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 15, wherein said oxide superconducting wires are round wires.

23. (Original) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 15, wherein said junction is at least partially coated with a metal or an organic substance.

24. (Original) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 23, wherein said junction is at least partially inserted into a material having an annular shape.

25. (Original) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 14, wherein said oxide superconducting wires contain a bismuth oxide superconductor.

26. (Original) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 25, wherein said bismuth oxide superconductor is a filament coated with a material containing silver.